

“On-Demand Active Role-based Software Provisioning”

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0079] Automated software provisioning based upon a set of role definitions for a
5 user of a configurable device such as a computer or personal digital assistant. The
present invention may be realized as an enhancement or extension to currently
available software distribution tools which are used to distribute software to remote
and local machines, and to permit unattended software installation and maintenance.
The invention provides role-based software provisioning which automatically
10 distributes the appropriate software programs and updates to computers that are
owned by users based on the role of each user, thereby avoiding the need for intensive
manual efforts to determine which computers need what software. The invention may
also be interfaced to a License Management system in order to accomplish automatic
recovery of unused software licenses, and to obtain permission for installing new
15 licenses, based on user role changes.